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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/074,574	02/13/2002	Neil Clair Berglund	ROC920010270US1	6572
7590	09/29/2005		EXAMINER	
DILLON & YUDELL 8911 NORTH CAPITAL OF TEXAS HIGHWAY SUITE 2110 AUSTIN, TX 78759			PATEL, ASHOKKUMAR B	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2154	

DATE MAILED: 09/29/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.	Applicant(s)	
10/074,574	BERGLUND ET AL.	
Examiner	Art Unit	
Ashok B. Patel	2154	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 July 2005.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) 15-20 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-14 and 21-23 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6) Other: _____



DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-23 are subject to examination. Claims 15-20 have been cancelled.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-14 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over over Ding et al. (hereinafter Ding)(US 2003/0055929 A1) in view of White (US 2002/0010881 A1).

Referring to claim 1,

The reference teaches a method for connecting Ethernet devices (page 3 , para.[0031]), wherein a device is a system for providing monitor, control and diagnostic services (page 3, para.[0030]) , said method comprising:

connecting in an Ethernet computer network a master device to a slave device (page 10, para. [0076],"The present invention may also be embodied as a module for operating in a communication system having a plurality of interconnected modules including a base module and at least one non-base module. The module may be either

a base module or a non-base module. The module includes at least one management database and management/control logic, where the management/control logic includes database interface logic for maintaining a number of module-specific objects and parameters and a number of stack-wide objects and parameters in the at least one management database, management interface logic for enabling the management/control logic to communicate with a network manager, inter-module communication logic for enabling the management/control logic to communicate with the plurality of interconnected modules, local handlers for processing network management information received from the network manager via the management interface logic and from the other interconnected modules via the inter-module communication logic and sending network management information to the other interconnected modules, and service logic for receiving a protocol message from the management interface logic and directing the protocol message to the local handlers, if the module is the base module or the protocol message is not one of a number of protocol messages requiring synchronization or mutual exclusion among the various interconnected modules, and to the base module via the inter-module communication logic, if the module is a non-base module and the protocol message is one of the number of protocol messages requiring synchronization or mutual exclusion among the various interconnected modules.);

assigning by a master device a physical address to a slave node and
assigning by said master device, a unique Internet Protocol (IP) address to said slave node such that said device manages said IP address assignment of said slave

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node, wherein said assigning of a unique IP address to said slave node is performed under a control of only a User Datagram protocol (UDP) stack and wherein an application sends a UDP/IP message to said slave node from said master device by directly opening an Ethernet port in said master device without using an intermediate IP socket. (page 4, para.[0036], page 7, para.[0062],[0063], Fig. 1)

Although Ding teaches said UDP stack, Ding fails to exclusively teach a System Power Control Network (SPCN) application wherein said SPCN application performs critical checks of said slave CES node before powering up said slave CBS node to avoid damaging said CES node through an application of incorrect voltages.

White teaches in Fig. 11, Computer Enclosure Services Process (SPCN application) within the Enclosure and at page 9, para.[0069]," [0069] FIG. 11 illustrates the basic communications paradigm represented by the SES command set. A host computer 1102 sends an SES command 1104 to an enclosure services process 1106 running within an enclosure 1108. In FIG. 10, for example, the enclosure services process runs on processor 1016. The enclosure services process 1106 interacts with various components 1110-1113 within the enclosure 1108 and then returns a response 1114 to the SES command sent to the enclosure services process 1106 by the host computer 1102." , and at page 12, para.[0085], "SPCN application performs critical checks of said slave CES node before powering up said slave CBS node to avoid damaging said CES node through an application of incorrect voltages."

Therefore, it would have been obvious for one in ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Ding and White such that the

enclosure services within any device (slave) enclosure such as computer enclosure the services process (1106) interacts with various components (1110-1113) within the enclosure (1108) and then returns a response (1114) to the SES command sent to the enclosure services process (1106) by the host computer (1102)(Master) as taught by White. Furthermore, Ding and White both are employing the same network topology as well as involves the interconnected network elements to be managed and controlled.

Referring to claim 2,

The reference teaches the method of claim 1, wherein said master computer initiates all communications between said master computer and said slave computer (page 10, para. [0076]).

Referring to claims 3 and 4,

The reference teaches the method of claim 1, further comprising connecting said master computer and said slave computer in an Ethernet string topology, and the reference teaches the method of claim 1, further comprising connecting said master computer and said slave computer in an Ethernet ring topology. (page 3, para.[0032])

Referring to claim 5,

The reference teaches the method of claim 1, further comprising transmitting a signal between said master computer and said slave computer by selectively directing said signal to either a transmission control protocol (TCP) socket or a user datagram protocol (UDP) port on said master computer and said slave computer (page 7, para.[0062], page 10, para. [0076]).

Referring to claim 6,

The reference teaches the method of claim 1, further comprising: connecting an intermediate slave computer between said master computer and said slave computer, said intermediate slave computer comprising a software application layer hierarchically above an Ethernet software layer; and bypassing said application layer in said intermediate slave computer when sending a signal to a subsequent slave computer by enabling a forwarding command in said Ethernet software layer when said signal is not addressed to said intermediate slave computer. (page 10, para. [0076], page 3, para.[0035]).

Referring to claim 7,

The reference teaches the method of claim 1, further comprising storing said IP address in an Address Resolution Protocol (ARP) table in said master computer (page 10, para. [0076]," The present invention may also be embodied as a module for operating in a communication system having a plurality of interconnected modules including a base module and at least one non-base module. The module may be either a base module or a non-base module.", page 6, para.[0053])

Referring to claim 8,

Claim 8 is a claim to a network that implements the method of claim 1. Therefore, claim 8 is rejected for the reasons set forth for claim 1.

Referring to claim 9,

Claim 9 is a claim to a network that implements the method of claim 2. Therefore, claim 9 is rejected for the reasons set forth for claim 2.

Referring to claims 10 and 11,

Claims 10 and 11 are claims to a network that implements the method of claims 3 and 4. Therefore, claims 10 and 11 are rejected for the reasons set forth for claims 3 and 4.

Referring to claim 12,

Claim 12 is a claim to a network that implements the method of claim 5. Therefore, claim 12 is rejected for the reasons set forth for claim 5.

Referring to claim 13,

Claim 13 is a claim to a network that implements the method of claim 6. Therefore, claim 13 is rejected for the reasons set forth for claim 6.

Referring to claim 14,

Claim 14 is a claim to a network that implements the method of claim 7. Therefore, claim 14 is rejected for the reasons set forth for claim 7.

5. Claims 21 and 22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over DING et al. (hereinafter Ding)(US 2003/0055929 A1) in view of Trisno et al.(hereinafter Trisno) (US 2002/0052960 A1).

Referring to claims 21 and 22,

Ding teaches a method for assigning Internet Protocol addresses to nodes in a computer network, the method comprising: connecting, in a computer network, a master node to a ring of slave nodes (page 10, para. [0076]), assigning, by the master node, a physical address to each of the slave nodes in the ring wherein the physical address describes a physical topological location of a slave node in the ring; and assigning, by the master node, a unique Internet Protocol (IP) address to slave nodes (page 4, para. [0036]).

Ding fails to specifically teach assigning, by the node, a unique Internet Protocol (IP) address to each of the nodes, wherein each IP address for a specific node contains a value in an IP field, and wherein the value in the IP field is the same as the physical address of that specific node, and wherein the step of assigning by the node, a unique IP address to each of the nodes further comprises: sending, by the node, a first IP address assignment message to a first node in the ring of nodes, wherein the first IP address assignment message is sent to a first default IP address stored in the first node by a manufacturer of the first node; changing an IP address of the first node according to the IP address assignment message; sending, by the node, a second IP address assignment message to a slave node in the computer network, wherein the second IP address assignment message is sent to a second default IP address stored in the second node by a manufacturer of the second node, and wherein the second default IP address is the same IP address as the first default IP address; and changing an IP address of the second node according to the second IP address assignment message.

Trisno teaches the entire claimed method elements in Fig. 2 and para.[0033]-[0043].

Therefore, it would have been obvious for one in ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Ding and Trisno such that IP addresses are assigned in a ring network by using the default IP addresses stored in the nodes by their respective manufacturers as taught by Trisno and allowing each Ethernet switching module (110, 120, 130) to send and receive management and

control information independently of the other Ethernet switching modules (110, 120, 130) as taught by Ding.

Referring to claim 23,

6. Claim 23 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ding et al. (hereinafter Ding)(US 2003/0055929 A1) in view of Trisno et al.(hereinafter Trisno) (US 2002/0052960 A1) as applied to claims 21 and 22 above, and further in view of White (US 2002/0010881 A1).

Keeping in mind the teachings of the references Ding and Trisno as stated above, both of these references fail to teach a System Power Control Network (SPCN) layer, and wherein the SPCN layer communicates solely between the UDP layer and an Operating System (OS) of a node.

White teaches in Fig. 11, Computer Enclosure Services Process (SPCN application) within the Enclosure and at page 9, para.[0069],” [0069] FIG. 11 illustrates the basic communications paradigm represented by the SES command set. A host computer 1102 sends an SES command 1104 to an enclosure services process 1106 running within an enclosure 1108. In FIG. 10, for example, the enclosure services process runs on processor 1016 (an Operating System (OS) of a node). The enclosure services process 1106 interacts with various components 1110-1113 within the enclosure 1108 and then returns a response 1114 to the SES command sent to the enclosure services process 1106 by the host computer 1102.”

Therefore, it would have been obvious for one in ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to combine the teachings of Ding and Trisno with White

such that the enclosure services within any device (slave) enclosure such as computer enclosure the services process (1106) interacts with various components (1110-1113) within the enclosure (1108) and then returns a response (1114) to the SES command sent to the enclosure services process (1106) by the host computer (1102)(Master) as taught by White. Furthermore, Ding , Trisno and White, all are employing the same network topology as well as involves the interconnected network elements to be managed and controlled.

Conclusion

Examiner's note: Examiner has cited particular columns and line numbers in the references as applied to the claims above for the convenience of the applicant. Although the specified citations are representative of the teachings of the art and are applied to the specific limitations within the individual claim, other passages and figures may apply as well. It is respectfully requested from the applicant in preparing responses, to fully consider the references in entirety as potentially teaching all or part of the claimed invention, as well as the context of the passage as taught by the prior art or disclosed by the Examiner.

THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the

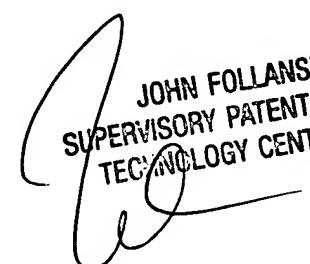
shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ashok B. Patel whose telephone number is (571) 272-3972. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00am-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, John A Follansbee can be reached on (571) 272-3964. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Abp



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